To complete each Geography Challenge card, answer the questions in complete sentences. Label the map on the opposite page as directed.

**Question 1** Africa is the continent that is south of Europe.

**Question 2** These bodies of water allowed traders to move goods throughout Europe more easily but also made settlements along coastal areas vulnerable to attack by invaders.

**Question 3** Large cities may have been located along rivers because it was easier in medieval Europe to travel and ship goods by water.

**Question 4** The mountains acted as barriers to travelers and traders, and as protection.

**Question 5** Answers will vary. Point out that the fall of the Roman Empire created political disunity. Explain that some invaders set up new kingdoms, while in other areas the Catholic Church or political leaders in Constantinople worked to maintain order.

**Question 6** These cities are all located next to bodies of water, which allowed travelers and traders to reach them easily.

**Question 7** Answers will vary. Explain that in this climate zone, winters are cool and summers are warm. It rains moderately throughout the year, and clouds, fog, and drizzle are common. Soils are generally heavy and sticky due to high levels of clay.

**Question 8** Answers will vary. Tell students that in this climate zone, summers are warm to hot while winters are mild and rainy. Explain that soils in this area tend to be sandy and drain well.